

PROCLAMATION

EO 05-01

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME — GREETINGS:

AN EXECUTIVE ORDER

WHEREAS, blessed with an abundance of natural beauty, a rich history, and populated by those who embody the term "Southern charm," our great state has long been a popular tourist destination. These resources, coupled with a quality hospitality and travel industry in Arkansas that stands ready to host conferences and conventions of all types and sizes, make the state a logical destination for these gatherings; and

WHEREAS, by virtue of the authority vested in me under law as Governor, I hereby direct all state agencies, boards, and commissions to develop and implement plans for identifying appropriate organizations and recruiting those organizations to hold their regional and national conferences and conventions in the State of Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, all agencies, boards, and commissions shall immediately contact all national and regional organizations to which they pay any dues and encourage such organizations to hold conferences and conventions in Arkansas. All agencies, boards, and commissions shall actively pursue attracting such conferences and conventions, up to and including submitting bids to host the conferences or conventions; and

WHEREAS, all agencies, boards, and commissions shall submit a report to the Director of the Department of Parks and Tourism by May 1 of each year. The report shall include a list of all the national and regional organizations to which dues are paid, a detailed report on the status of any negotiations or contacts with each of those organizations regarding conferences and conventions, a report on negotiations or contacts with any other national or regional organizations, and any other information relevant to the recruitment of conferences and conventions;

NOW THEREFORE, the Department of Parks and Tourism is hereby directed to provide assistance upon request to each agency, board and commission in their efforts to attract such conferences and conventions. This Executive Order shall be effective upon its signing, and shall remain in full force and effect until amended or rescinded by further executive order.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 4th day of January in the year of our Lord, two thousand five.



MIKE HUCKABEE, GOVERNOR

CHARLIE DANIELS, SECRETARY OF STATE